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INDEPENDENT MONTHLY FOR AN AMERICAN ALTERNATIVE — DEDICATED TO THE ERADICATION OF ALL RESTRICTIONS ON THOUGH CPYRGHT

Exclusive:

WHERE DID THE SHOTS THAT FELLED JOHN F. KENNEDY COME FROM?

Fifty-one Witnesses: THE GRASSY KNOLL by Harold Feldman

THE HEAD HUNTERS by Mike Newberry

NUCLEAR PLANTS AND PUBLIC SAFETY by Ned Lehac

THE JUNTA ON THE DEFENSIVE by M. S. Arnoni

THE BATTLE OF BERKELEY by Barbara Gullahorn and Jerry Rubin

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Nelson Hold on the UN The Budget



A peace demonstrator at U.S. naval base at Holy Loch, Scotland

The Thaw: Phase II

CPYRGHT

Despite the war activities and foreign interventions which are now going on in the countries of former Indo-China and in the Congo, and despite the ominous tensions between Indonesia and Malaysia, the overall international situation appears in 1965 to be calmer and securer than in any previous period of the Cold War. This improvement has been achieved primarily through a measured relaxation of Big Power tensions in Europe; and it found expression in the partial nuclear test ban treaty.

Significant as has been this change, nothing has yet happened to give permanency to the relative thaw in the Cold War. The relaxation is a fortunate caprice, one which may disappear faster than it took to make itself felt. This situation incorporates incalculable potential dangers, partly because the relative relaxation makes people un-

instrumentality through which the two super-Powers vaguely promised each other

the specific ban provisions as would not durably eliminate the problems of nuclear arming as a source of political crises. The presumed accident, which, on January 15, 1964, caused the escape of some radioactive debris during a Soviet underground A-test, should serve as an ominous reminder of grim possibilities left open by the inadequate test ban treaty. It was fortunate that that accident happened at a time when the United States had no reason to take an irreconcilable view of it. The same "innocent" accident, had it happened against a different diplomatic background, could easily place the super-Powers in a military contest.

The Soviet accident also proved other things. One of them is that the United States has no difficulty in detecting even small amounts of radioactivity released over difficulties. Even more importantly, the accident dramatized how dangerous might